GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:435
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
ENCROACHMENTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND
RENU KUMARI SINGH

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1352 dated 31.7.2001 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the encroachment on more than 700 acres of Government land, reserved/earmarked as green areas is likely to be removed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the fact that Land & Development Office did not have the manpower/wherewithal to keep watch and ward of the vacant lands in Delhi, 70 sites measuring 769.099 acres (approximately) were transferred to the Delhi Development Authority vide notification dated 12.7.1974 for the purpose of maintaining the same as `green`. These lands were to be ulilized for the specific purposes as per the Master Plan/land use of the area. Approximately 568.812 acres have already been utilized by allotting to various agencies. Some sites were already encroached upon at the time of issue of notification whereas some sites were encroached upon thereafter.

During the course of hearing of Civil Writ Petition No.6324/2000 and CM No.9640/2000 filed by the All India Lawyers` Forum for Civil Liberties, it was mentioned that 45.518 acres of land was already being maintained as `green` by DDA. It was also mentioned that there were encroachments in approximately 54 sites. In a number of these sites, encroachments were only partial. While dismissing the petition as `withdrawn`, the Hon`ble Court directed the Union of india to remove the encroachments and maintain the area as `green`. The actual area encroached upon was calculated to be 154.769 acres (approximately). Out of this, about 4.5 acres have since been cleared after the orders of the High Court.

(d): The DDA has reported that at present actualencroachment is in an area measuring 150.269 acres (approximately). The eviction of encroachments on public land is a continuing process. Various procedures as per the law are to be followed before such actions. In many of the cases, the occupants approach various courts and obtain stay against the proceedings. Therefore, no time-frame can be fixed for eviction.